

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 14188 211502Z
ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 IGA-02 EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 TRSE-00 /084 W
----- 081211 /53

R 211337Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8333
INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, BENC, ELTN, NI
SUBJ: NIGERIAN RAILROAD PROJECT STATUS

REF : STATE 284526 AND PREVIOUS

SUMMARY: IN RESPONSE PARA SIX REFTTEL, EMBOFF MET WITH PROJECT DIRECTOR OMOTOSO WHO SAID PROJECT FEW WEEKS BEHIND SCHEDULE BUT PROCEEDING AS PLANNED. DECISIONS EXPECTED SOON ON CONSULTANCIES AND CONSTRUCTION BIDS.

1. BIDS: ITALCONSULT NEARLY FINISHED WITH EVALUATING ALL BIDS. DECISIONS MAY BE MADE JANUARY WITH SURVEYING TO BEGIN FEBRUARY. THIS IS SOMEWHAT BEHIND SCHEDULE BUT OTHERWISE PROCEEDING AS PLANNED. SOLE AMERICAN BIDDER, RAILROAD BUILDERS OF ENGLEWOOD, COLORADO, LOOKS GOOD FOR SECTION 3 BUT NOTHING FINAL AS YET. (FIRM INFORMED DIRECT CABLE.) NRC STILL INTENDS IMPLEMENT PROJECT IN ENTIRETY BUT OF COURSE THIS DEPENDENT ON FINANCING. (OTHER SOURCES SAY RAILROAD IS AMONG PROJECTS FOR WHICH BORROWING CONTEMPLATED 1977. EMBASSY HAS ALREADY WRITTEN NRC GENERAL MANAGER NZEGWU ABOUT EXIM BANK LOAN POSSIBILITIES.

2. CONSULTANTS: ITALCONSULT STILL CONSULTANT FOR PRE-CONSTRUCTION PHASE. NO DECISIONS OR AWARDS YET ON ADDITIONAL
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CONSULTANTS. TAMS AND PRC PROPOSALS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION. NRC WISHES DISCUSS WITH GLYNN OF TAMS SOME SORT OF SPECIAL CONSULTATION ON METHODOLOGY AND COMPARATIVE COSTS SIMILAR PROJECTS GABON AND ELSEWHERE AFRICA. EMBASSY CABLED GLYNN DIRECTLY ADVISING HIM TO CONTACT OMOTOSO SOON SINCE LATTER TAKING LEAVE UNTIL JAN. 8. AT THIS STATE IT APPEARS THAT U.S. FINANCIAL CONSULTANT MIGHT

CONFLICT WITH TAMS, WHICH SHOULD ATTEMPT EXTEND ANY SPECIAL CONSULTANCY TO EMBRACE FINANCING. SUGGEST WASHINGTON BRIEF GLYNN (TELEPHONE 212-755-2000) ON THINKING REFTEL REGARDING FINANCIAL CONSULTANT.

3. CONTRACT AWARDS: FEDERAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (SIMILAR TO CABINET) HAS FINAL SAY ALL LARGE CONTRACTS. IN NRC CASE, CONSULTANT WOULD RECOMMEND TO NRC, WHICH WOULD RECOMMEND TO MINISTRY, WHOSE COMMISSIONER WOULD RECOMMEND TO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, WHICH IS UNLIKELY TO DELEGATE CONTRACT POWERS TO ANY OTHER AUTHORITY. (NZEGWU ONCE SAID AN AUTHORITY UNDER CONSIDERATION BUT THIS TIED IN WITH CONSULTANCY DECISIONS.)
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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, PROPOSALS (BID), CONTRACTS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), RAILROADS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LAGOS14188
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760468-0516
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761225/aaaaavia.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 284526
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 JUL 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <18 OCT 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NIGERIAN RAILROAD PROJECT STATUS
TAGS: EAID, BENC, ELTN, NI
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006